

Amendments to the specification:

Please replace the abstract of the disclosure with the following amended abstract:

~~Methods and apparatus for creating barcode characters are disclosed. In particular,~~
the methods and apparatus described herein form barcode characters by determining a number of pixels associated with forming a first bar and a second bar of a first barcode character. A separation width value associated with the first bar and the second bar is determined based on the number of pixels. A second separation width value is then generated based on the at least one separation width value. A barcode character is then formed based on the second separation width value.